

MILWAUKEE COUNTY COMMISSION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Deb Falk-Palec, Chairperson
Tim Ochnikowski, Director
December 19th, 2019

MINUTES

St. John's On the Lake
1800 N. Prospect Ave.
Eilers Conference Room

ITEM I CALL TO ORDER

1:00 pm

ITEM II ROLL CALL

Chairwoman Deb Falk-Palec led the self-introductions of everyone in attendance.

Commissioners Present: Damian Buchman (via phone), Deb Falk-Palec, Supervisor Willie Johnson Jr., Denise Koss (via phone), Sue Pickering (via phone), Meg Steimle (via phone)

Commissioners Absent or Excused: Norma Duckworth, John Haupt, Barbara Leigh, Cheri McGrath, Marcia Perkins

Guests: - Fran Musci - Transit Plus

Staff: Mike Bonk

ITEM III APPROVAL OF MINUTES (September, October, November)

Commissioner Koss made a motion to approve. Commissioner Buchman 2nd the motion, hearing no objection minutes were approved.

ITEM IV SPECIAL REPORTS

ITEM V TRANSIT PLUS REPORT

Fran Musci provided the Transit Plus Report. Transit Plus rides for the previous month were 40,274 with an on-time percentage of 94.90%. Aira services have expanded to MCTS. 3rd Transit company to get on board with Aira. MCTS has 15 Aira beta testers that will utilize a minimum of 5 times by December 27th, 2019.

ITEM VI COMMITTEE UPDATES

- A. Executive Committee (Commission Membership)
Executive Committee recommended Sharin Cabral to the full commission for approval. Commissioner Supervisor Willie Johnson Jr. motion to approve Sharin Cabral for recommendation. Commissioner Steimle 2nd the motion to recommend Sharin Cabral to become a Commissioner. Hearing no opposition, the Commission moved Sharin Cabral for recommendation.

ITEM VII REVIEW OFFICE REPORT (November)

Staff Mike Bonk explained that the Office for Persons with Disabilities met with the Parks department at the Wehr Nature Center regarding the possibility of adding the Access Ability Wisconsin's All-Terrain Wheelchair. The Parks Department loved the idea of adding the All-Terrain Wheelchair to the site and has since been in contact with Accessibility Wisconsin asking additional questions as to the Wheelchair itself, MOU, and service agreements. The hope is to be able to offer the Wheelchair by Spring. In addition, the Office for Persons with Disabilities reached out to Kulture City regarding the possibility of adding Sensory Bags to Milwaukee County locations. Since talking with Kulture City, OPD reached out to the various county departments to ask if they would be interested in being a host site for the sensory provided products. Seven county locations were interested in being host site, and the Milwaukee County Zoo is already in the process of being certified. The seven county locations interested in the program are at the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), include Behavioral Health Division, Disabilities Services Division, Wraparound Wellness Clinic, Owens Place, and at Milwaukee County Parks locations such as Boerner Botanical Gardens, Mitchell Park Domes, and the Wehr Nature Center.

ITEM VIII COMMISSION DISCUSSIONS

A. Recreation Report

Staff Mike Bonk Reported that the Recreational Contract with Easterseals ran for a three term 2017 – 2019 and had two 1-year extensions if agreed upon by both organizations. The 1-year extension has been granted for 2020, and programming will stay the same, except for Wil-O-Way Grant Park dances. Going forward dances will be held at the Moose Lodge, and Wil-O-Way Underwood, as the numbers have been on the decline at Grant Park. Summer Camp will continue at the capacities it was years prior. Commissioner Buchman shared the update to the Ramp Up MKE funding goals for the Bradford Beach Access which will include a need pathway to the beach, mobi matting, and beach wheelchairs. The Goal of \$100,000 has been met, and construction should start this spring.

B. 2019 Eric Hobbs Award Winner

Commission Pickering made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$500 from the Milwaukee County Commission Expendable Trust Fund for the 2019 winner of the annual Eric Hobbs Award to Takeela Traner for her artwork "Sexy Woman in a Wheelchair". Commissioner Koss 2nd the motion to approve the expenditure. Hearing no discussion, VOTE: all present commissioners voted I. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Chairperson's Report

Chairwoman Falk-Palec reported the City of Milwaukee Adaptive Bike and Scooter Pilots both end December 31st, 2019. The City of Milwaukee is taking feedback regarding the scooters, but nothing for the adaptive bikes currently.

ITEM IX OTHER MATTERS BY COMMISSIONERS

ITEM X OTHER MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC

ITEM XI ADJOURN

Chairwoman adjourned the meeting at 1:52 pm. The next meeting of the Commission will be January 13th, 2020, 1:00pm at St. John's on the Lake, 1800 N. Prospect Ave.

Submitted by: Mike Bonk, Staff to the Commission

